

**Minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of TC39  
held in Mountain View CA, on 18<sup>th</sup> of February 1998**

**Chairman:** Mr. G. Robinson (Sun)  
**Minutes:** Mr. G. Robinson (Sun)  
**Attending:** Mr. M. Cowlshaw (IBM), Mr. M. Ksar (HP), Mr. C. Lewis (Netscape), Mr. N. Boyd (Netscape), Mr. D. Lytle, (Microsoft), Mr. A. Clinick (Microsoft), Mr. K. Matzke (Sun)  
**Excused:** Mr. J. van den Beld

## **1 Opening**

**Mr. Robinson**, Chairman of TC39, opened the meeting.

## **2 Adoption of the agenda (98/02)**

The agenda was adopted, with the addition of:

- UNICODE and ISO/IEC 10646-1 references
- Year 2000
- Comments from JTC1/SC22 US national committee
- Election of Project Editor and Vice Chair(s)

## **3 Approval of the minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting (97/39)**

The minutes were approved.

## **4 Matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere**

- 4.1** Approved: **Mr. Cowlshaw** as Project Editor to replace **Mr. Steele**.
- 4.2** We had two volunteers for Vice-Chairman but decided to wait until next meeting to allow volunteers to confirm with their management and to discuss with the Secretary General with respect to rules.

## **5 Reports**

### **5.1 GA 74**

**Mr. Robinson** and **Mr. Ksar** related what happened at the GA meeting. The TC39 recommendation on ECMA-262 including name and modifications was accepted by the GA.

### **5.2 Fast-track of DIS 16262**

The fast-track ballot of DIS 16262 terminates on 9<sup>th</sup> April 1998. The resolution of the ballot results has to be done within a few months after this date, e.g. in a back-to-back meeting with the next TC39 meeting, in June 1998. After completion of the final text, ISO/IEC will publish the standard in about three months.

**5.2.1** Comments by ECMA, if any, to be covered in this TC39 meeting: **comments have to be submitted by ECMA before 9<sup>th</sup> April 1998, otherwise they will not be considered by ISO/IEC JTC 1.**

**5.2.2** UNICODE and ISO/IEC 10646-1: **Mr. Ksar** presented a set of comments from Japan and the proposed responses:

- Comment 1.2: Accepted in principle, to make UNICODE an acceptable normative reference and add ISO/IEC 10646-1.
- Comment 1.3: Accepted
- Comment 3.1: Investigate for version 2.
- Comment 3.3: Accepted in principle but further investigation is needed as well as advice from SC22. (Action: Mr. Robinson)
- Comment from **Mr. Duerst**: must be studied further.

**5.2.3 Year 2000**

We discussed this subject once in the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and modified the results at this meeting. We will make "get year" (the 2 digit version) an informative note in ISO/IEC 16262. **Mr. Fisher** agreed, provided that the implementation of the 2-digit year functions is not mandatory (i.e., that testing will not be required by the standard).

**5.2.4 Comments by JTC1/SC22 US national committee**

Comments from this committee were reviewed and resolved.

**5.2.5 Translation of Strings comment**

TC39 discussed internationalization items. It was agreed that allowing strings to be read from other sources are a 'host' issue, and that the language facilities are already adequate to permit accessing external strings; using literal strings in the code for messages is poor style, just as in other languages. Source encodings (at least for ECMAScript in HTML, as defined by W3C) are likewise determined outside the language.

**5.3 OMG**

**Mr. Lewis** reported on the last meeting. OMG is interested in a specification for requirements for a scripting language with binding into a CORBA domain.

**5.4 W3C**

The contribution from HP on SPICE was discussed, no problems were seen.

## **6. Planning and preparation of 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of ECMA-262**

**6.1 Collection and assessment of incoming requirements**

**6.1.1 Editing Group report (98/1)**

**6.2 Preparation of 1<sup>st</sup> draft 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition**

The target for final approval by the GA is June 1999.

**6.2.1 Editorship**

**Mr. Cowlshaw** will be the editor.

**6.3 Validation**

**Mr. Matzke** reported that 'The Open Group' might be interested in doing ECMAScript validation and testing. TC39 decided to investigate further. NIST will provide test assertions developed at NIST and provide assistance to organizations interested in implementing a validation service for ECMAScript.

**7 Any other business**

**8 Date and place of next meeting(s)**

No. 7: 15th - 16th June 1998, Menlo Park, CA, on kind invitation by Sun (one day technical and one day plenary TC39 meeting). The DIS 16262 ballot resolution meeting will be held back-to-back with this TC39 meeting.

N.B. The TC39 meeting scheduled for 29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> April 1998 has been cancelled.